

He will offer experimental and laboratory proof of these tenets. He would educate away the emotional initiators of drive. Surgery in appropriate cases can break the connection between brain and thyroid or adrenals by excision of a portion of either—or cervical sympathetic may be divided. But when one removes a part of the kinetic system, he starts to de-kineticize the individual, diminishes his power for work, his response to the various stimuli, decreases excretion of acid by-products and raises sugar tolerance!

This book is of vital importance for one reason if for no other and that is, it offers further proofs that emotions alone can cause real and identical pathology to that initiated by infection, intoxication, etc., and Crile suggests that christian science or any other means of removing these "emotional stimuli" may well have left a body at least a little better able to fight the sum total of other stimuli.

J. H. C.

### DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY AND CHEMISTRY.

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(Devoted to the advancement of Pharmacy and its allied branches; to the work of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, and to matters of interest bearing upon the therapeutic agents offered to the medical profession. The editor will gladly supply available information on matters coming within the scope of this Department.)

#### NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES.

Since publication of New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1916, and in addition to those previously reported, the following articles have been accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association for inclusion with "New and Nonofficial Remedies":

**Solution of Hypophysis-Squibb.**—A sterilized, aqueous solution of the water-soluble active principles of the posterior lobe of the pituitary bodies of cattle, free from chemical preservatives and physiologically standardized. It has the properties of the pituitary gland, as described in New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1916. E. R. Squibb and Sons, New York. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 2, 1916, p. 745.)

**Benzidine.**—In medical practice benzidine is used for the detection of occult blood. In the presence of hydrogen peroxid and acetic acid, benzidine is changed to a deep purple compound by the action of blood. The test is said to detect blood in a dilution of 1 in 300,000.

**Benzidine-Merck (for Blood Test).**—This complies with the standards prescribed for benzidine, N. N. R. Merck & Co., New York. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 16, 1916, p. 879.)

**Occult Blood Test (Dudley Roberts).**—This consists of tablets each containing 5 grains of a trituration of benzidine, 1 part, and sodium perborate, 20 parts, and glacial acetic acid (supplied in boxes containing 100 tablets in vials, and a bottle of glacial acetic acid). A tablet is treated with a weak solution of the material to be tested and a drop of acetic acid added, a greenish blue color indicates the presence of blood. E. R. Squibb and Sons, New York. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 16, 1916, p. 879.)

**Mercurial Oil.**—A mixture containing from 40 to 50 per cent. of metallic mercury in an oily base. The mercury is in a finely divided state and of a consistence which permits its intramuscular injection by means of a proper syringe at room temperature. The degree of subdivision of the mercury should be indicated for each brand of this product. Mercurial oil is used as a means of obtaining the systemic effects of mercury. Cumulative effects should be carefully watched for.

**Mercurial Oil-National Pathological Laboratory.**—A mixture of equal weights of mercury and lanolin obtained by triturating the constituents until mercury globules are no longer macroscopically visible. It is marketed in graduated syringes ready for use and containing 2 Cc. National Pathological Laboratories, Chicago. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 23, 1916, p. 953.)

**Liquid Petrolatum-Squibb, Heavy (Californian).**—It is made from Californian petroleum and is claimed to be composed chiefly of hydrocarbons of the naphthene series. A brand of liquid petrolatum complying with the U. S. P. standards for liquid petrolatum and claimed to be superior to liquid petrolatum, U. S. P. E. R. Squibb and Sons, New York. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 23, 1916, p. 953.)

**Thromboplastin-Squibb.**—A solution of brain extract complying with the standards for solution brain extract, N. N. R. It is marketed in 20 Cc. vials. E. R. Squibb and Sons, New York. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 23, 1916, p. 953.)

**Chlorazene.**—Chlorazene (sodium para-toluenesulphochloramine) is an active germicide acting much like hypochlorites, but being less irritating. Like the hypochlorites it has the advantage over mercuric chloride, zinc chloride, etc., in that it does not coagulate or precipitate proteins, such as blood serum. Chlorazene is reported to be practically non-toxic. The Abbott Laboratories, Chicago, Ill. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 30, 1916, p. 1021.)

#### ITEMS OF INTEREST.

**The U. S. Pharmacopoeia, IX.**—The ninth revision of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia became official Sept. 1, 1916. It is a book of standards for drugs, but it is not a book of standard drugs. The pharmacopoeia includes substances which have been shown to be inert like the hypophosphites, complex and obsolete mixtures like the compound syrup of sarsaparilla, and drugs which have been tried and found wanting like saw palmetto berries. There is one great advantage in specifying U. S. P. preparations: to do so, is to invoke legal standards of identity and purity. The only way to be sure of obtaining substances of therapeutic efficiency, however, is to exercise discrimination; the pharmacopoeia is no guide to therapeutically valuable drugs. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 2, 1916, p. 750.)

**The New National Formulary.**—The National Formulary, 4th edition, becomes official September 1. It is published by the American Pharmaceutical Association. The preface says frankly: "The scope of the present National Formulary is the same as in previous issues, and is based on medical usage rather than on therapeutic ideals. The committee consists entirely of pharmacists, or of men with a pharmaceutical training, and it cannot presume either to judge therapeutic practice or follow any particular school of therapeutic practice. The question of the addition or deletion of any formula was judged on the basis of its use by physicians and its pharmaceutical soundness. The considerable use by physicians of any preparation was considered sufficient warrant for the inclusion of its formula in the book, and a negligible or diminishing use as justifying its exclusion." The National Formulary contains a large number of formulas for preparations which in the main are complex and superfluous. From the pharmacist's point of view, the book is a valuable one. Physicians who have a scientific training in the pharmacology of drugs will not want it; others will be better off without the temptations offered by its many irrational formulas. (Jour. A. M. A., Sept. 2, 1916, p. 764.)

**The Hypophosphite Fallacy.**—The Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry reports that the introduction of hypophosphites into medicine was due to an erroneous and now discarded theory as to